August 17, 1998

EPA-SAB-RSAC-CON-98-006

Honorable Carol M. Browner Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460

Subject: Notification of a Consultation on the Agency's FY2000 Science

and Technology (S&T) Budget

Dear Ms. Browner:

The Research Strategies Advisory Committee (RSAC) of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) met on July 31, 1998, to conduct a consultation with the Chief Financial Officer, other budget staff, program staff, and staff from the Office of Research and Development on the Agency's science and technology (S&T) budget process for FY2000. This consultation was conducted at the request of Deputy Administrator Hansen who wanted to obtain the insights of individual SAB members on the development of the S&T budget.

The SAB has developed the consultation as a mechanism to provide the early reflections of selected members and consultants to the Agency on technical issues that should be considered in the development of regulations, guidelines, technical guidance, research, or assessment methods before the Agency has taken a position. A consultation is conducted under the normal requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which include advance notice of the public meeting in the Federal Register.

As is our customary practice, there will be no formal report from the SAB as a result of this consultation, nor do we expect any formal response from the Agency. However, the Committee looks forward to the opportunity of conducting a formal review of this issue in the future.

Sincerely,

/signed/ Dr. Joan Daisey, Chair Science Advisory Board

/signed/ Dr. William Randall Seeker, Chair Research Strategies Advisory Committee Science Advisory Board

NOTICE

This report has been written as a part of the activities of the Science Advisory Board, a public advisory group providing extramural scientific information and advice to the Administrator and other officials of the Environmental Protection Agency. The Board is structured to provide balanced expert assessment of scientific matters related to problems faced by the Agency. This report has not been reviewed for approval by the Agency; and hence, the contents of this report do not necessarily represent the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency or other agencies in the Federal government. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute a recommendation for use.

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